

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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WEDNESDAY MARCH 10, 2004

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I N S I D E

See NORITA on Page 8

See HOUSE on Page 8

Local Milestones

SAIPANCELL
CMYK

CARS UNLIMITED


CENTURY TRAVEL




WEATHER FORECAST

PICTURE TIME: 1:00 AM., MARCH 9, 2004
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.


Fresh to strong trade winds across much of Micronesia converging into lighter winds near the Equator are producing scattered showers between the Equator and 8n from 130e to 153 and between the Equator and 6n from 160e to 180. A cold front stretches from 25n161e to 20n146e and continues as a shear line to 19n130e. Low- and mid-level clouds...light rain and showers associated this feature extend up to 200 miles north of the boundary. Trade wind convergence south of the cold front/shear line is producing low clouds and showers between 12n and 18n from 132e to 150e. This area includes the Mariana Islands.





SAIPAN AND TINIAN
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: East at 15-20 mph. Highs near 87. Lows near 76.





GUAM AND ROTA
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: East at 15-20 mph. Highs near 87. Lows near 76.


**PALAU**
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 15 kt.




















**POHNPEI**
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 15 kt.

**YAP AND ULITHI**
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 15-20 kt.

**KOSRAE**
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: East at 10-15 kt.

**CHUUK**
Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 15-20 kt.

**MAJURO**
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.
Winds: East at 15-20 kt.

CITY	FORECAST	HIGH	LOW
 Auckland	Sunny	71F (22C)	60F (16C)
 Beijing	Sunny	65F (18C)	48F (9C)
 Hong Kong	Sunny	74F (23C)	61F (16C)
 Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	82F (28C)	68F (20C)
 London, England	Sunny	45F (7C)	30F (-1C)
 Los Angeles	Sunny	79F (26C)	59F (15C)
 Manila	Partly Cloudy	88F (31C)	73F (23C)
 Melbourne	Sunny	75F (24C)	59F (15C)
 Miami	Partly Cloudy	72F (22C)	54F (12C)
 New York City	Cloudy	40F (4C)	34F (1C)
 Osaka	Partly Cloudy	37F (3C)	25F (-4C)
 Paris	Partly Cloudy	38F (3C)	25F (-4C)
 Pusan	Partly Cloudy	53F (12C)	39F (4C)
 Rome	Cloudy	49F (9C)	30F (-1C)
 Salem, Oregon	Partly Cloudy	60F (16C)	40F (4C)
 San Francisco	Sunny	68F (20C)	52F (11C)
 Seoul	Partly Cloudy	47F (8C)	35F (2C)
 Tokyo, Japan	Partly Cloudy	42F (6C)	36F (2C)
 Washington, DC	Cloudy	45F (7C)	34F (1C)





VERIZON 611
CMYK

SHELL
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Opinion

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Trading liberty for security

Americans lost so much on that gorgeous, sunlit morning of Sept. 11, 2001. More than 3,000 mothers, fathers, sons and daughters. The belief, however chimerical, that this nation was invulnerable. A nation's naiveté about the wickedness that men will do. In the sad and anxious years since, there have been other losses, including one that has revealed itself more slowly: the steady erosion of civil rights.

The president and attorney general, from their first days in office, have pursued secrecy and restrictions on civil liberties. The terror attacks gave them a new rationale—national security.

Three years later, the landscape of American liberties stands profoundly altered. The Patriot Act gives the government unprecedented new powers to snoop and arrest. Incorporated almost verbatim into the law's 300 pages are wish lists that prosecutors drafted long before the attacks.

The act allows law enforcement officers to comb through people's medical or financial data without their knowledge. If FBI agents ask, public librarians and booksellers must hand over records of their patrons' reading habits; they can be prosecuted if they tell those targeted by such demands. The FBI can secretly collect information on businesses or charities it suspects of financing terrorism. Agents can far more easily seize books, journals or computers from someone's home, membership lists from organizations, including churches and temples, and subscriber lists for any magazine.

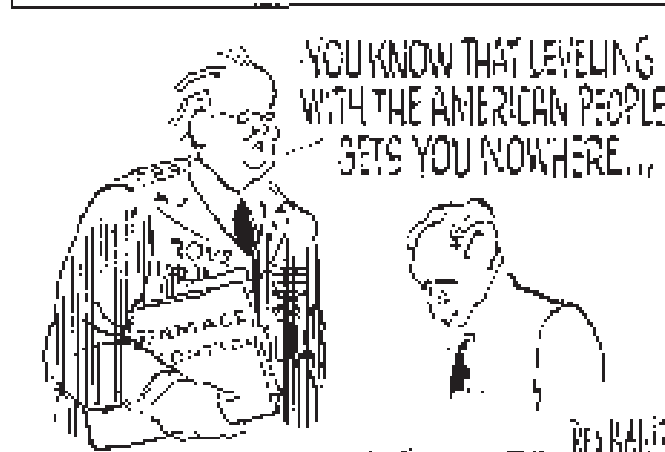
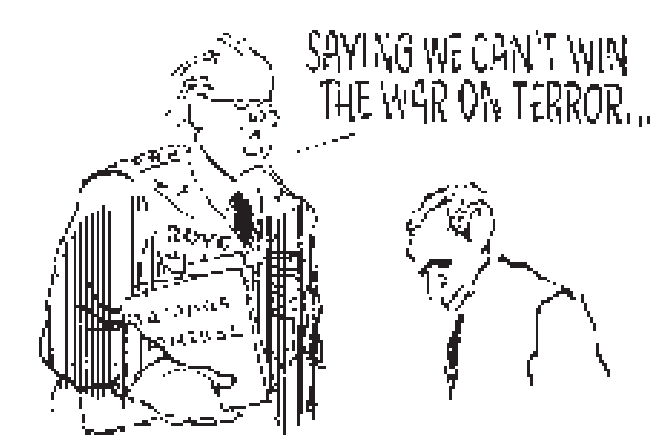
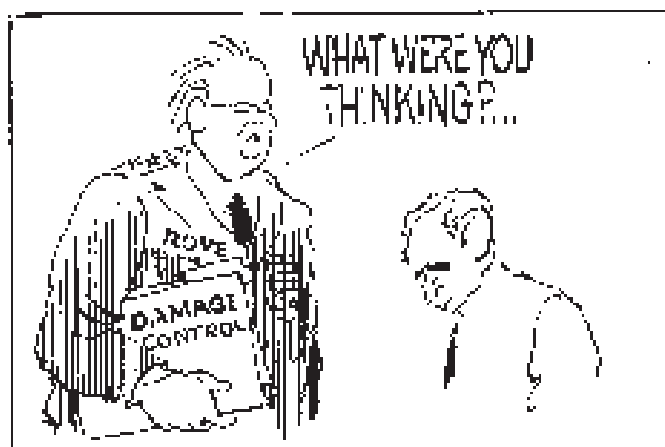
Equally alarming, government investigators can now share surveillance information, collected in an effort to catch spies, with prosecutors looking to nab people suspected of dealing drugs or in other common crimes, even though espionage-related surveillance requests have to meet a much lower legal standard of suspicion.

The government's secret "no-fly" list is full of errors, bumping innocent individuals from planes and trapping those who try to get their names expunged in an endless maze. The FBI continues to "invite" immigrants—usually Middle Eastern men accused of no crime—in for questioning. Before last month's Republican National Convention, agents knocked on the doors of dozens of would-be protesters, visits clearly designed to intimidate them.

About 250 local governments and state legislatures, including the Los Angeles City Council, have passed resolutions calling for the Patriot Act's repeal or amendment. Three years ago, federal lawmakers rushed to pass the massive legislation, and many now admit they didn't read it first. Several pending bills would restore the civil rights protections that set the United States apart. The proposals would restrain secret fishing expeditions and require more openness, while still giving law enforcement ample tools to fight terror.

As the nation marks another sorrowful anniversary, Congress should begin to make those repairs.

(c) 2004, Los Angeles Times



Riding out the storm

By JEANNE MCMANUS
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON POST

When the hooded man with the flashlight and the yellow slicker bangs on your door at 4 in the morning and tells you that the hurricane is headed your way and that you must evacuate, you have two choices: to stay or to go. Maybe the constable, mayor or governor says you have only one choice. But in our house there were always two.

Call it civil disobedience, passive resistance, territoriality or sheer stubbornness, my father was a man who was not easily dislodged from his comfortable chair in his comfortable living room, his good reading lamp, his papers, his crosswords, his peace, especially when he was in the midst of his weeks-long vacation at Bethany Beach, Del., a spot where he began to take his family in 1948.

And so, as the vigilant firemen or lifeguards went door to door announcing the imminent arrival of first Connie and then Diane, both in August 1955, my father thanked them each time for their hard work and in his own lawyerlike way created the impression that his family would evacuate, though of course he had no plans to do so.

In fact, by the time Donna was threatening in 1960, we children had learned our father's attitude so well, that in the early fury of the storm we headed to the boardwalk bowling alley, grabbed the two ideal lanes (3 and 4) whose U-shaped warps were advantageous to our game, and played until the ocean spilled under the bowling alley. Dad gave us money to tip the pin boy.

Provisioning was not the obsession that it is today. We had no canned goods or bottled water stacked on shelves, no batteries, since I don't think we even owned a transistor radio. We rode the storm out by simply watching the storm, taking measure of the willow in the back yard as it bent in half, looking for the first rush of foam in the street, the indication that the ocean was coming over the dunes. And then we fell asleep. Only once did we wake up to learn that the winds had ripped the front porch off in the middle of the night.

A healthy skepticism of authority, a tendency not to overreact and the ability to keep a cool head in a crisis: In later years, we told ourselves that these virtues had been the benefit of behavior that some would say was Dad's foolhardiness.

Only once, the first time the man with the flashlight came knock-

ing at the door, had Dad taken the other route, the safe, sane one. The first time, in the dark and driving rain of Hurricane Barbara in 1953, my father heeded the warning and, with my mother, woke the four kids, all under age 10, got us dressed and in the Chevy station wagon, heading up the narrow Delaware roads for home. Before we turned west out the main drag, my father convinced the fireman directing traffic while standing in the ankle-deep water that he had to go a few blocks north to check on his "brother," not a brother at all but a close friend. Our families vacationed together, though wisely never in the same house. They had eight kids—one the age of each of us, plus another four—and quite possibly would want to offload a few into our station wagon. Dogs and grandparents were also involved.

But when we arrived at the house, they had already fled, their overhead lights still on, the back door wide open and the screen door banging wildly in the forceful wind—the home of a family spirited off by aliens.

Dad closed their back door, then headed up 26 west to Dagsboro, as part of a long, snaking line of cars, then on to Bridgeville, Denton and the Bay Bridge and Washington. Dad "drove straight through." In later years this became our polite euphemism for Dad's style of motoring and, in fact, of life: Get where you're going as fast as you can, eyes straight ahead. Destination is all, journey is nothing.

Back home in Washington by mid morning it was hot and humid. The kid Dad had hired to mow the lawn while we were away had not shown up and the grass was knee high. Mom had packed up all the dirty laundry, since the typical beach house back then had no washer and drier, and spent the day folding sheets, towels and summer shorts. Dad mowed the lawn. At 3 he call the landlady back in Bethany.

"How's the weather down there now?" he asked. Lillian replied that it was now a beautiful day, the sky was blue and a crisp fresh ocean breeze was blowing.

We got back in the car and drove straight through. Mom took a bluefish out of the freezer, which was still working, broiled it and we sat down to dinner. And that was the last time we ever fled a hurricane.

McManus is editor of The Post's Food section.

MAKING

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and perhaps the “morale problem” will dissipate and no longer plague the academe and entire island community.

Should the 14th Legislature make the decision to hold on to the La Fiesta Mall and take full responsibility for nearly \$1 million annual obligation to run and lease it (\$600,000 for operations and \$200,000 + interest for the leasehold), then the question that must be placed before the CNMI lawmakers is: Where will the funds come from to maintain a facility that is currently not very productive and has been construed to be more of a

“liability” than an “asset” for NMC.

Politicians who tout themselves to be involved with “education” substantiate it with demonstrative actions that will move institutions forward and not backward. The only way that NMC will be able to move forward is to receive “approved appropriations” from the sale of the La Fiesta Mall and take care of the business of becoming a stable and progressive institution of higher education in the Pacific Rim. Since majority of the funding that was appropriated for the \$7.5 million transaction in 2003 between the BOR, the governor’s office, and the La Fiesta Mall proprietors came from the federal coffers,

then there would be a huge benefit due to the fact that most of the money did not come from the tax revenues generated by the residents of the entire island community.

Now is the time for the governor to step forward and show the electorate his “true colors” in terms of supporting higher education with sincere and genuine compassion. Going public with supporting the sale of the La Fiesta and using the proceeds to pull NMC out of an extremely precarious situation and delegating to those subordinates who report to him to exert effort into locating and persuading potential buyers for the mall will substantiate that the governor is truly

“an education governor.”

On the other hand, if the governor refuses to change the current arrangement of the Executive Branch maintaining responsibility to run and fund the La Fiesta Mall and discourage any involvement on the part of both houses of the Legislature, then the mindset he might have to face from the CNMI taxpayers who are not convinced and /or certain that La Fiesta Mall is good for the islands and higher education, may not be mollifying, and could very well end up being unsettling.

Dr. Jesus D. Camacho
Delano, California

STATELESS

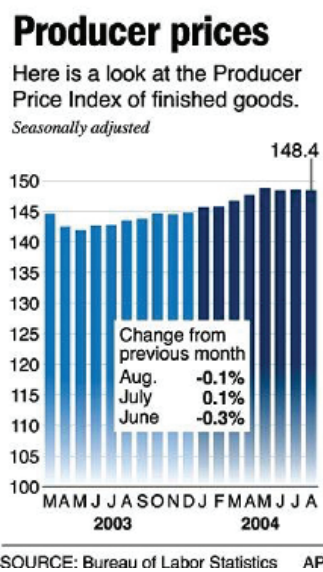
From Page 11

mother hails from the Philippines, happily declare themselves part Filipinos. The 9th Circuit’s decision, if you read the brief submitted for the panel rehearing, shows that the decision in Sabangan is inconsistent with prior decisions of the same Court of Appeals circuit. But until the entire process is done, you will have to just wait. Just like we waited for over a decade after the Covenant took effect to become U.S. citizens. What’s a few months compared to the over 10 years we had to wait?

Gregorio C. Sablan
Garapan

Business

Inflation ‘behaves’ as price index falls



By JEANNINE AVERSA
AP WRITER

WASHINGTON (AP)—The economy got a double dose of encouraging news Friday as wholesale prices went down and moderating energy costs helped improve the country’s trade deficit.

The latest batch of economic reports suggested inflation, for the most part, is under control, and the economy has emerged from a late spring lull and, in the words of Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, “regained some traction.”

“We appear to be coming out of the soft patch,” said Oscar

Gonzalez, economist at MFC Global Investment Management.

The Labor Department’s Producer Price Index, which measures costs of goods before they reach store shelves, dipped 0.1 percent in August after edging up by 0.1 percent in July. Cheaper gasoline, cars and food helped restrain wholesale prices last month.

Excluding food and energy costs, core prices watched closely by economists also fell 0.1 percent in August, their first decline since February and an indication that most other prices

were well-behaved, analysts said.

For the first eight months of the year, overall wholesale prices have increased at an annual rate of 3.8 percent, compared with a 4.6 percent advance for the same period last year.

The Commerce Department, meanwhile, reported that U.S. trade deficit shrank to \$50.15 billion in July as U.S. exports rose and imports declined for the first time in nearly a year. The decline reflected a drop in the foreign oil bill.

July’s trade deficit was 8.9 percent smaller than the record

\$55.02 billion trade gap registered in June.

U.S. exports rose a solid 3 percent in July from the previous month to \$95.86 billion, the second-highest level on record. Imports fell 1.4 percent to \$146 billion.

Although July’s trade deficit remained the second-highest imbalance ever recorded, the improvement from the previous month raised hopes among economists that the trade gap will become less of a drag on the economy in the July-to-September quarter.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrials gained 23.97 points to close at 10,313.07.

President Bush and his Democratic rival, John Kerry, have clashed repeatedly over trade, the health of the economy and availability of jobs as they try to win over voters less than two months before Election Day.

Kerry seized on the United States’ \$14.9 billion trade deficit with China in July, a record for one month, to argue that Bush hasn’t done enough to protect American workers against unfair trade competition.

Consumer confidence dips slightly in August

WASHINGTON (AP)—Consumer confidence dipped slightly in August, though Americans’ mood about job security remained near its highest levels of the year.

The AP-Ipsos consumer confidence index slipped to 103.4 in September compared with 104.8 in August. Still, public confidence in the economy is near its highest levels of the year.

Job seekers have faced a slow and uneven recovery in the job market, which saw the addition of 144,000 jobs in August and a dip in the unemployment rate from 5.5 percent in July to 5.4 percent in August. Higher oil prices have threatened the economy’s comeback, and analysts have estimated those high prices have taken more than \$50 billion out of consumer spending.

Kirk Deason, a 33-year-old telecommunications worker from Denver, Colo., said he doesn’t expect the economy to shift dra-

matically in the coming months.

“I think things are just holding steady,” Deason said. “I don’t think any miracles are coming.”

The AP-Ipsos confidence index is benchmarked to a 100 reading on January 2002, the month the index was started by Ipsos.

The polling by Ipsos-Public Affairs found that 48 percent said they are more confident now than they were six months ago about job security for themselves, family members and others they know. That’s up from 41 percent who said that in April.

With the presidential campaign heating up, perceptions of the economy’s strength had a sharp partisan split—Republicans were far more likely than Democrats or independents to say the economy was very strong, the polling found.

For Jorge Nobregas, a 45-year-old salesman from Barrington, Ill., future prospects for the economy look bright.

US trade deficit falls to \$50.15B

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. trade deficit fell to \$50.15 billion in July as American exports of cars, airplanes and computers rose while imports declined for the first time in nearly a year, reflecting a drop in the country’s foreign oil bill. The politically sensitive deficit with China hit an all-time high.

The Commerce Department reported Friday that the 8.9 percent improvement in the deficit in July followed a 16.9 percent surge in June which had pushed the trade gap to a record \$55.02 billion. Nevertheless, the \$50.15 red-ink figure was the second highest imbalance on record.

Even with the slight narrowing, the trade deficit through July is running at a record annual rate of \$581 billion, putting the country on track to surpass last year’s all-time high deficit of \$496.5 billion.

“The awesome trade chasm narrowed a bit, but it is so wide that we cannot be too happy,” said Joel Naroff, chief economist of a Holland, Pa., forecasting firm. He said the increase in U.S. exports was a hopeful sign that the global economic growth was picking up.

The country’s exploding trade deficit has become an issue in the presidential race with Democratic challenger John Kerry contending that President Bush has not done enough to protect American workers against unfair competition from low-wage nations with poor records on labor rights and environmental protection.

Kerry singles out China as the chief culprit in that regard. The new report showed that America’s deficit with China hit a new monthly record of \$14.9 billion, leaving the imbalance with China so far this year 28 percent above last year’s level.

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Nation

Families honor victims in 9/11 ceremony

By SARA KUGLER
AP WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Their voices breaking, parents and grandparents of those lost on Sept. 11 stood at the World Trade Center site Saturday and marked the third anniversary of the attacks by reciting the names of the 2,749 people who died there.

The list took more than three hours, punctuated by tearful dedications when the readers reached the names of their own lost loved ones.

"We miss you very much, we love you very much, and we'll never forget you because you're in our hearts forever," said Stewart D. Wotton, looking skyward and remembering his son, Rodney James Wotton.

Four moments of silence were observed at 8:46, 9:03, 9:59 and 10:29 a.m.—the precise times that the two planes slammed into the buildings and when they collapsed on Sept. 11, 2001.

Bells tolled at the moment hijacked Flight 93 crashed near Shanksville, Pa. A moment of silence was observed at the Pentagon for the 184 victims there. And President Bush stood in silence on the White House lawn to mark the third anniversary of the worst terrorist attack on U.S. soil.

For those at ground zero, the pain remained fresh. Pat Hawley, 44, said he comes to the ceremony every year to remember his older sister, Karen Sue Juday.

"It seems like it gets harder every year, because it's that much more time since I've been able to talk to my sister and be with her," said Hawley, of Charlotte, N.C.

Hundreds of family members descended a long ramp into ground zero, sobbing, embracing each other and tossing a layer of roses onto two square reflecting pools meant to evoke the fallen twin towers.

Some wore images of their lost loved ones on T-shirts, oth-

ers held large pictures aloft.

"It's just a place to reconnect," said Anne Allen, 58, of Fort Lee, N.J., whose brother, Salvatore Pepe, was killed at the trade center. "This is where he was last."

Reading from two lecterns, the parents and grandparents provided a bookend to last year's anniversary ceremony, when children of attack victims read the list of names.

The relatives read the list slowly and precisely above violin strains; some hugged when they finished their portion of the list.

"Our loving son, Paul Robert Eckna, our tower of strength—we love and miss you," said Carol Eckna.

"We miss your big smile, Kev," said Mike Williams, recalling his son, Kevin Michael Williams.

Former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, Gov. George Pataki and others gave readings with a clear theme—the inexpressible grief of losing a child. Pataki quoted President Dwight Eisenhower: "There's no tragedy in life like the death of a child. Things never get back to the way they were."

When it ended, a chorus of children sang and two trumpeters—one each from the police and fire departments—played Taps.

At Arlington National Cemetery, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld joined relatives of those killed in the Pentagon near a large granite marker that bears the names of each victim. Family members laid flags at the marker and ran their fingers across the names inscribed.

In a field in western Pennsylvania where Flight 93 went down, volunteers rang two large bells as the names of each of the plane's 40 passengers and crew were read.

"We know that no words, no memorials, nothing can take the place of all that you have lost,"



Two light beams illuminate the sky in memorial of the Sept. 11 attacks on New York's World Trade Center Saturday, Sept. 11, 2004, as shown from Jersey City, N.J.

Bush remembers 9/11 with quiet observance

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Bush marked the "terrible events" of the Sept. 11 attacks with quiet observances of the third anniversary Saturday and a new call to arms against terrorists who might seek to harm the nation.

"We know that there is still a danger to America," Bush said, broadcasting his weekly radio address live from the Oval Office after paying silent homage in a church service and a White House ceremony. "So we will not relent until the terrorists who plot murder against our people are found and dealt with."

The president's tributes were echoed across the Potomac River at Arlington National Cemetery and by Democrat John Kerry.

"We are one America in our unbending determination to defend our country—to find and get the terrorists before they get us," the Massachusetts senator said in his radio address, taped before he attended a memorial service in Boston.

While the presidential nominees have argued about which man would better lead the nation's fight against terrorism, they laid aside their public differences during the remembrances.

Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said to the victims' families at the ceremony.

Across the nation, communities commemorated the attacks in different ways, with church services, dedications and moments of silence.

In Boston, a small plane pulled an American flag behind it as about 150 relatives



President Bush, with relatives of the victims of the Sept. 11 attacks, delivers a live radio address in the Oval Office in the White House Saturday, Sept. 11, 2004, commemorating the third anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.

Fifty-one minutes after Bush presided over a moment of silence marking the minute three years ago when terrorists crashed the first hijacked plane into the World Trade Center, Washington fell silent again to commemorate the moment a fuel-laden jetliner was steered into the Pentagon.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and dozens of relatives, friends and co-workers of the 184 people killed at

the nearby defense headquarters gathered to commemorate them at a large granite monument at Arlington that bears their names. Rumsfeld said their lost loved ones will not be forgotten.

"They live on as a testament to a country that is courageous, that is determined, to a people that are resilient despite great loss, and to a cause that continues until that mission is accomplished and beyond," he said, just steps away from the white

marble headstones where 50 of the dead are buried.

Rumsfeld laid a wreath of white flowers, and a lone bugler played taps in the distance. Family members followed with their own bouquets and flags. Some ran their hands across the inscribed names.

Kerry's running mate, John Edwards, gave a sermon-like address at the Congressional Black Caucus' prayer breakfast in Washington, talking broadly of the need to build "one America" by ending poverty, improving schools and honoring work.

"It is never just an anniversary; it is a time of renewal for each and every one of us to do God's work here on earth," Edwards said.

At the White House, where Bush aides are mindful that the president's strongest suit with voters, and his central argument for re-election, is his anti-terror credentials, a lengthy fact sheet was released detailing what it called "three years of progress in the war on terror."

Bush devoted much of his brief address to reciting ways his administration has worked to protect the country from future attack.

A commuter train station has opened on the site's northeast corner, eventually to be transformed into a \$2 billion transit hub. And a 20-ton granite cornerstone was laid on July 4 for the 1,776-foot-tall Freedom Tower, the skyscraper set to open in 2009 that will be the centerpiece of the redeveloped trade center site.



Paul Boling and Kate Thompson embrace as they look over a sea of crosses on the beach along the south side of the pier in Oceanside, Calif., Saturday, Sept. 11, 2004. San Diego Veterans for Peace placed 1006 crosses on the beach in memory of all the U.S. service people who have died in Iraq.

Asia

Blast, mushroom cloud reported in N. Korea

By CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA
AP WRITER

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—A large explosion occurred in the northern part of North Korea, sending a huge mushroom cloud into the air on an important anniversary of the communist regime, a South Korean news agency reported Sunday.

The Yonhap news agency, citing an unidentified source in Beijing, said the explosion happened Thursday in Yanggang province near the border with China. The explosion in Kim

Hyong Jik county blasted a crater big enough to be noticed by a satellite, the source said.

“We understand that a mushroom-shaped cloud about 3.5 to 4 kilometers (about 2-2 1/2 miles) in diameter was monitored during the explosion,” Yonhap quoted an unidentified diplomatic source in Seoul as saying.

North Korea was founded Sept. 9, 1948. Leader Kim Jong Il uses the occasion to stage performances and other events to bolster loyalty among the impoverished North Korean population.

Experts have speculated that North

Korea might use a major anniversary to conduct a nuclear-related test, though there was no immediate indication that Thursday’s reported explosion was linked to Pyongyang’s efforts to develop nuclear weapons.

Kim Hyong Jik is reported to hold a major missile base. North Korea, which has a large missile arsenal and more than 1 million soldiers, is dotted with military installations.

South Korea’s Unification Minister Chung Dong-young said Sunday the government was in the process of confirming reports there were signs

of an explosion in North Korea.

“I am not aware of details such as the size of the damage,” he was quoted as saying by Yonhap after a National Security Council meeting.

On Saturday, North Korea said recent revelations that South Korea conducted secret nuclear experiments involving uranium and plutonium made the communist state more determined to pursue its own atomic programs.

The South Korean experiments, conducted in 1982 and 2000, were likely to further complicate the already stalled six-nation talks aimed at dismantling

the North’s nuclear development. South Korea has said the experiments were purely for research and did not reflect a desire to develop weapons.

On April 22, train wagons at a railway station exploded in the North Korean town of Ryongchon, killing 160 people and injuring an estimated 1,300, according to some estimates. The blast was believed to have been sparked by a train laden with oil and chemicals that hit power lines.

The source in the Yonhap report said Thursday’s explosion reportedly was bigger than the train explosion.



Accused deserter surrenders at Japan base

CAMP ZAMA, Japan (AP)—Forty years after allegedly defecting to North Korea, a frail Sgt. Charles Robert Jenkins reported to duty in Japan on Saturday, giving a simple salute to an Army marshal and surrendering to U.S. authorities.

Jenkins’ voluntary surrender caps months of negotiations between Japan and North Korea and eases a diplomatic headache for Tokyo and Washington.

Accompanied by his wife and their

two North Korea-born daughters, the diminutive, suit-clad 64-year-old turned himself in at the gate of the Camp Zama Army base with a salute to the base provost marshal—the military equivalent of a police chief.

“Sir, I’m Sgt. Jenkins and I’m reporting,” he said.

Jenkins was taken to the base personnel office, put in a sergeant’s summer dress uniform and given an advance on his pay - \$3,273.36 a month.

Afghan govt replaces two governors

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—The Afghan government on Saturday replaced two governors, including a powerful strongman in the west, in a

bold step to establish control ahead of landmark presidential elections.

The move was President Hamid Karzai’s second against factional leaders who helped the United States to drive out the Taliban in 2001—but who have resisted his authority ever since.

It could also speed the transfer of responsibility for security in the region from the U.S. military battling Taliban insurgents further south to an expanding NATO-led force.

Ismail Khan, the governor of Herat in western Afghanistan, was offered a new job as minister of mines and industries, Karzai’s office said in a statement. Khan was unavailable for comment, though the U.S. ambassador in Kabul said he had refused the new position.

Indonesia releases embassy attack footage

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Indonesian police on Saturday released security camera images of a truck bombing outside the Australian Embassy, and investigators found traces of explosives in a room rented by two Malaysian militants wanted in the blast.

Also Saturday, around 1,000 members of a hardline Muslim group rallied in downtown Jakarta against Thursday’s attack, which killed nine people, two of them suspected suicide bombers.

Demonstrators carried banners reading: “Islam rejects terrorism!”

“We are deeply saddened by Thursday’s blast. We don’t want to be labeled as a group that supports bombings,” said a spokesman for Hizbut Tahrir, which last year led protests against the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq.

The bombing came ahead of elections in both Indonesia and Australia, leading to suggestions it may have been timed to influence those results.

Indonesian and Australian police, who are cooperating in the investigation, said several suicide bombers were still at large and could be planning more attacks in the world’s most populous Muslim nation.

The video released by police was taken from two security cameras on buildings opposite the heavily fortified mission on a busy commercial street in downtown Jakarta.

It shows passers-by and security guards milling outside the gate minutes before they are enveloped in a huge cloud of white smoke and debris. People can be seen screaming and running in panic.

World

With 56 dead, Ivan intensifies off Jamaica

By STEVENSON JACOBS
AP WRITER

BULL BAY, Jamaica (AP)—Hurricane Ivan strengthened to a rare Category 5 storm capable of catastrophic damage, leaving Jamaica and aiming for the Cayman Islands with winds reaching 165 mph, the U.S. National Hurricane Center said Saturday. Ivan has killed 56 people across the Caribbean so far this week, including 34 in Grenada and 11 in Jamaica.

Millions more people are in its path, with Ivan projected to go between the Cayman Islands, make a direct hit on Cuba and then either move into the Gulf of Mexico or hit South Florida.

"If God doesn't help us, I think this is going to be extremely tragic," said Maria del Carmen Boza, a 65-year-old resident of Cojimar, a seaside community in Cuba once frequented by Ernest Hemingway. "All of Cuba is worried. This looks like it's going to be really dangerous."

President Fidel Castro sought to assuage such concerns.

"This country is prepared to face this hurricane," Castro said Saturday night on state television, saying his government had mobilized to save lives and property.

A Category 5 storm is the most powerful, packing winds of at least 155



Boats lie piled up after being tossed by the strong winds of Hurricane Ivan in St. George's, Grenada, Friday, Sept. 10, 2004.

mph and causing a storm surge of at least 18 feet.

At 8 p.m. EDT, the hurricane's winds were 165 mph and its well-defined eye was about 145 miles east-southeast of Grand Cayman, a popular offshore banking center where secrecy laws protect transactions. Hurricane-force winds extended 60 miles and tropical storm-force winds another 175 miles. The storm was moving west-northwest

at about 9 mph and was expected to reach the Cayman Islands on Sunday.

The storm could dump up to 1 foot of rain, possibly causing flash floods and mud slides, the Hurricane Center said.

If Ivan hits land in the Caribbean at its current strength, it would be the first Category 5 storm to do so since Hurricane David devastated the Dominican Republic in 1979, said Rafael Mojica, a meteorologist at the Hurricane Center in

Miami. Hurricane Mitch was a Category 5 storm in the Caribbean Sea in 1998, but it hit Central America.

Only three Category 5 storms are known to have hit the United States. The last was Hurricane Andrew, which hit South Florida in 1992, killing 43 people and causing more than \$30 billion in damage.

Jamaica, an island of 2.6 million known for its beaches, reggae music and Blue Mountain coffee, was saved from a direct hit when the hurricane unexpectedly wobbled and lurched to the west. Jamaica was ravaged by winds just below 155 mph.

"Mercifully, we were spared a direct hit and whatever our religion, faith or persuasions may be, we must give thanks," Jamaican Prime Minister P.J. Patterson said in an address to the nation.

East of Kingston, the capital, dazed survivors stood in the rain and watched 25-foot waves crash onto beachfronts where a dozen houses used to stand at Harbour View. Associated Press reporters saw looters carrying boxes of groceries from a smashed storefront.

Five people drowned or were struck by trees that crashed into their homes, said Ronald Jackson of Jamaica's disaster relief agency. Patterson said 11 people had been killed, but he did not elaborate.

Israeli troops leave 8 Palestinians dead

BEIT LAHIYA, Gaza Strip (AP)—Israeli troops moved out of the northern Gaza Strip on Saturday after a four-day operation that left eight Palestinians dead, more than 100 wounded and tens of thousands without electricity or running water. Hours later, Palestinians lobbed mortar shells at an Israeli settlement in the strip.

At daybreak, tanks drove away from the towns of Beit Lahiya and Beit Hanoun and the outskirts of the sprawling Jebaliya refugee camp, from where Palestinian militants frequently fire rockets at Jewish settlements and Israeli border towns. The tanks left two dozen demolished homes behind them.

It was unclear why the army withdrew. Troops frequently have raided northern Gaza communities to stop the rocket fire, largely to no avail. Even during the raid, some rocket and mortar fire at Israeli towns continued.

After the pullout, in two separate salvos, mortar fire on the Israeli settlement of Netzarim hit a house, damaged several others with flying debris and slightly injured two soldiers on guard there, the army said.

Heavy tank traffic cut up the main road in northern Gaza, as well as several side roads linking major neighborhoods, making them impassable in some sections. Some water pipes, electricity poles and telephone lines in the area also were destroyed, leaving about 130,000 residents without basic services, said Beit Lahiya's mayor, Adel Hammoudeh.

Twenty-two homes, 10 shops and five factories were destroyed in the two towns and the refugee camp, municipal officials said. Several public buildings—including the Beit Lahiya police station, the fire department and a rehabilitation center for the handicapped—also were razed, the mayor said.

Explosions rock Baghdad near US offices

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP)—Strong explosions shook central Baghdad early Sunday, and fighting erupted on a major street in the heart of the city near the U.S.-guarded Green Zone.

Rocket and mortar fire erupted about 5:30 a.m. and continued into the morning. Several rounds landed in the Green Zone, raising clouds of black smoke and triggering warning sirens.

The rattle of heavy machine gun fire echoed through Haifa Street, located on the western side of the Tigris river near the Green Zone and a "no go" area for international forces. A Bradley fighting vehicle caught fire and children climbed on top, cheering and dancing beside the flames.

U.S. soldiers took positions behind walls and trees along Haifa Street and residents milled about to watch the battle.

The early morning explosions followed a late-night barrage that rattled the capital. Three or four projectiles—believed to be either mortar shells or rockets—slammed into a group of apartment buildings across the street from the Palestine and Sheraton hotels, where many international journalists are based.

Col. Adnan Abdul-Rahman, an Interior Ministry official, said there were no reports of casualties. Earlier, mortars or rockets exploded near the Green Zone and at a U.S. base in northern Baghdad. No casualties were reported.

In Basra, Iraq's major southern city, a bomb exploded outside a Saddam Hussein palace that now houses a U.S. consular office. One person was killed and two were wounded, police said. The victims were believed to be Iraqis.

In Baghdad, a U.S. warplane launched an airstrike on militants loyal to rebel cleric Muqtada al-Sadr during a battle in the sprawling Sadr City slum.

The plane fired on a team of mili-

Terror tape boasts US forces humiliated

CAIRO, Egypt (AP)—An audiotape purportedly by key terror suspect Abu Musab al-Zarqawi boasts that Islamic holy warriors have humiliated the U.S.-led coalition in Iraq.

The speaker noted recent battles between American forces and militia-men loyal to a radical Shiite cleric in the holy city of Najaf, indicating that it had been made recently.

There was no way to verify the authenticity of the 45-minute recording or the date it was made. The audiotape surfaced Saturday, the third anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks, on a Web site known for Islamic content.

The voice on the tape was similar to that of previous recordings of al-Zarqawi and used a similar style of rhythmic speech. There was no reference to the Sept. 11 attacks in the tape, titled "Where is the honor?"

The tape opened with previously recorded material, including songs and speeches, before introducing the speaker as al-Zarqawi. The ensuing speech lasted about 25 minutes.

"The holy warriors made the international coalition taste humiliation ... lessons from which they still are

tiamen manning a machine gun, said U.S. Capt. Brian O'Malley of the 1st Brigade Combat Team. Residents reported that gunfire rocked the city before the attack; there was no word on civilian casualties.

"They spotted the team from the air ... and they engaged and destroyed the team," O'Malley said.

Elsewhere, insurgents kidnapped the family of an Iraqi national guard officer and burned his home northeast of the

burning," the speaker said.

The speaker then talked about the July and August fighting in Najaf, saying, "It was not Najaf they were after, but the courageous and steadfast Sunni Triangle." He was referring to a large swath of land to the north and west of Baghdad where resistance to the American-led forces is fiercest.

"This is how they wanted to scare us, by (showing us) those they crushed in Najaf. And this is how the cowards function," the speaker said, claiming that fight served only to prepare U.S. forces to resume their siege of Fallujah.

The last tape purportedly made by al-Zarqawi surfaced July 7. That tape spoke of killing Berg to avenge Muslims who had suffered at the hands of American-led forces in Iraq and Afghanistan.

On the latest tape, the speaker said Iraq was in the hands of an "evil alliance" of Americans, Kurds aided by Israel, and Shiite Muslims. The speaker said Iraqi Premier Iyad Al-lawi will be targeted by the Tawhid and Jihad group, which is led by al-Zarqawi.

capital, Iraqi authorities said Saturday.

Kidnappers seized the wife and three children of Col. Khalis Ali Hussein on Wednesday, said Maj. Gen. Walid Khalid, the head of the Diyala provincial police force.

The incident in Khalis, 40 miles northeast of Baghdad, was the latest act of intimidation against security forces cooperating with the U.S. military. Insurgents consider the Iraqi police and security personnel to be collaborators.



Europe sets deadline for Iran on weapons

BERLIN (AP)—Europe's major powers have agreed to set a November deadline on Iran to meet demands meant to resolve concerns that it is secretly trying to make nuclear weapons, in a confidential document made available Saturday to The Associated Press.

The draft resolution was prepared by France, Germany and Britain for Monday's start of a key meeting in Vienna, Austria, of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the U.N. nuclear watchdog.

The draft contains a so-called "trigger mechanism," warning of possible "further steps"—which diplomats defined as shorthand for referral of Iran's case to the U.N. Security Council, which could impose economic and political sanctions.

The draft is likely to undergo changes before the three nations submit it at the board meeting of the IAEA. And it still has to be approved by two-thirds of the 35 board members.

Russia cites rift between Chechen rebels

MOSCOW (AP)—The deadly Chechen militant attack on a school in southern Russia has produced a split in the rebel cause, Russian officials claimed on Saturday.

In what was an apparent attempt to exploit the division, Russia announced earlier this week that it would pay \$10 million for information leading to the arrest of the top Chechen rebel leaders, Shamil Basayev and Aslan Maskhadov.

Federal Security Service Maj.-Gen. Ilya Shabalkin underlined on Saturday that rebels were eligible for the reward.

Officials say Chechens were among the 11 attackers who have been identified, and Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said Friday the hostage-taking was directed by Basayev—the most notorious of the warlords leading Chechen rebels who have been fighting Russian forces for five years. Lavrov said Maskhadov, Chechnya's president from 1996-99, also was linked to the hostage-taking.

Soldier sentenced for Iraq prison abuse

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP)—A U.S. soldier broke down in tears Saturday as he admitted abusing inmates at Abu Ghraib prison, receiving a lighter sentence in return for his testimony against others charged in the scandal.

Spc. Armin Cruz, 24, was the first Military Intelligence soldier convicted in the scandal, and his trial came as the investigation into the abuses appeared to move beyond the Military Police who so far have been at the case's center.

"There is no way to justify it," Cruz, from Plano, Texas, said after pleading guilty to conspiracy to mistreat subordinates and mistreatment of prisoners at the grim, walled prison in western Baghdad in October. "I accept full and complete responsibility."

Health & Fitness

mell labor
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Life & Style

BEST-SELLING BOOKS

Brains!



Basement dwelling nerds across the nation have been waiting anxiously to see *Resident Evil: Apocalypse*, sequel to the critically pooped-on *Resident Evil* (2002). Video game nerds have grown up. Bored by the *G-rated Mario Bros.*, they now spend their every waking moment blowing the heads off the zombies in the R-rated *Resident Evil* (actually, video games aren't rated, but they really should be). The fact that their favorite game has been translated to the big screen should be ample reason to give their thumbs a break. That is, assuming, they can borrow 10 bucks from mom.

Zombie movies are supposed to be stupid. Believe it or not, though, there have been a couple made recently that have bucked this trend. *28 Days Later* (2002), besides being scary as hell, is actually kind of smart, and has real characters that the audience can truly care about. Zack Snyder's remake of George Romero's classic *Dawn of the Dead* (on DVD Oct 5th) may not be particularly "smart" per se (not stupid either), but it is at least very fun to watch. And, of course, it's scary as hell.

Resident Evil: Apocalypse is somewhat of a throwback, then, in the sense that it's incredibly moronic. That would be fine if it were at least scary, but alas, it is not. The only thing going for it is the fact that first-time director Alexander Witt seems to be fairly adept at putting together a passable action set. Too bad he had to work from the source material of screenwriter Paul W.S. Anderson, the nincompoop responsible for the first

Resident Evil, and *Alien vs. Predator*.

Hey guys—the city has been overrun by zombies; let's take a shortcut through the graveyard! Sure, I'll buy that one. There's no way Anderson could possibly delude himself to believe he's making good movies. Clearly he knows he's in "B-Movie" territory, and he seems to relish in it. At absolutely no point during *Resident Evil: Apocalypse* does what we're seeing on screen make any kind of sense.

How is it possible that gunshots to the chest will only slow you down, but a punch in the stomach will incapacitate anybody? And what about the bad guy—he has precision aim with his machine gun, unless of course he's 10 feet away from the good guy, in which case he will only shoot at the ground around their feet. What are we watching, the *A-Team*? Why do the lead actresses, including a police officer, insist on whoring themselves up, a la Christina Aguilera? Then, there's the dialogue. My favorite quote? From mad scientist to heroine—"You're not a mutation. You're evolution." Guess Anderson never took Bio 101.

By the way, I think my head is going to explode the next time I see the token black guy used as comic relief. Are you kidding me? I thought things might be different in the 21st century. The painfully idiotic script, full of clichés and stereotypes, isn't helped by the all-around

poor acting. These guys make Jean Claude van Damme look like Robert de Niro. The only exception would be lead actress Milla Jovovich. Her version of the video game superheroine is much better than the work of Angelina Jolie (*Tomb Raider*).

Normally, at some point in a movie review, I'm expected to divulge a little of the plot. But is it really necessary in this case? It's a zombie movie, with lots of explosions, automatic weapons, scantily clad women, and get this—*kung fu fights with zombies*! No, that's not a typo. Paul W.S. Anderson knows no boundaries for the ridiculous and absurd.

The gratuitous boob-shot, courtesy of a couple zombie strippers, is a clear indication, if it wasn't already obvious, that *Resident Evil: Apocalypse* has been targeted for an audience with raging hormones, a short attention span, and less than discerning taste. Teenage boys, the only demographic that will find this kind of fare suitable to be called "entertainment" might have to wait a few more months to watch it, since most of them will be too young to get in. Most rental stores, however, will let anybody rent R-rated movies, so I expect *Resident Evil: Apocalypse* to share the same fate as its predecessor, *Resident Evil*—mediocre box office receipts, with a very successful run in DVD rentals. For those outside of this particular demographic—don't waste your time or money on such a stinker. Currently, the only movies worth watching on Saipan are *Hero* and *Fahrenheit 9/11*.

Resident Evil: Apocalypse is rated "R" for nudity, language, violence and gore.

Comments? E-mail Weindl at joewatches-movie@yahoo.com.



By JOE WEINDL
Special to the
Saipan Tribune



A scene from *Resident Evil: Apocalypse*, now showing at the Hollywood Theaters.

obit jose muna

Husband who runs around must stay home and commit

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

DEAR ABBY: I am 19 and a new bride, and very much in love with my husband, "Dennis." We have a beautiful son together and another on the way.

Dennis never likes to stay home. He works until midnight, so he comes home from work and goes straight to sleep. When he wakes up, he calls my best girlfriend and has her come pick him up. Then he is usually out with her until he has to go back to work.

I know Dennis is staying faithful to me, but he never spends any time with me or our son. We live with his mother right now, and I'm always stuck with her. We really don't get along that well.

When I get mad about Dennis leaving, she tells me to "let him run, he's still young." She then proceeds to tell me that if I get angry about it, I'll lose him.

I have tried talking to my friend about this, but she tells me I should stop freaking out. I have no idea what to do now. His mother sticks up for Dennis and babies him. She tells me "everyone" thinks I'm getting angry for no reason. Do you agree?

UNSURE IN MICHIGAN

DEAR UNSURE: No, I don't. Nor do I agree with Dennis' mother that your husband should spend all his free time with your "best friend" because he's "still young" and needs to run. His running days were supposed to be over the day he said "I do."

As it stands, your husband is acting like he's single. Putting the best face on it, regardless of whether there is a sexual affair going on between your girlfriend (some friend!) and your husband, there appears to be an emotional one. His first responsibility should be to you and the babies. You could both benefit from marriage counseling. If he won't agree to it, you must assure that your children are supported—and that may involve talking to a lawyer.

DEAR ABBY: I am a certified operating-room nurse. Our surgeons have recently seen patients in their teens and 20s needing open heart surgery to replace a diseased valve.

Please warn your readers that tongue studs can lead to endocarditis, requiring surgery to replace damaged heart valves, as well as other health problems. Not only do these otherwise healthy young people have to endure this major surgery, but they also face having to take blood thinners for the rest of their lives or having their prosthetic valve replaced every 15 to 20 years.

We will see this documented in medical journals in a few years as the incidence rises, but we can save lives and prevent illness NOW by urging people to remove their tongue jewelry and let their tongues heal. The hole in the tongue provides a pathway for natural organisms in the mouth to find their way to the heart and the rest of the body with devastating results. Wearing tongue jewelry can endanger their health, their future, their very lives.

KAREN MURPHY, R.N.,
MORTON PLANT HOSPITAL, FLA.

DEAR KAREN: Your letter raised eyebrows in my office, including my own, so I called the American Heart Association for more information. They referred me to Gerald Pohost, M.D., at the University of Southern California, who kindly shared the following with me: He agrees that for certain individuals, people with a medical history of rheumatic fever or rheumatic valve disease—or ANY heart valve disease—tongue jewelry could, indeed, be dangerous.

I hope my readers will pay attention to these two concerned health-care professionals. At the risk of sounding like an alarmist, it's better to be safe than sorry.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)



Dear Abby

P. Diddy puts together all-women 'band'

NEW YORK (AP)—P. Diddy is back to "Making the Band"—this time, with all women. For three seasons, P. Diddy—aka Sean Combs—developed the now disbanded hip-hop ensemble Da Band in the show's second incarnation.

During the first season of "Making the Band 2," Puffy and his Bad Boy Entertainment

team searched the country to construct the music group while the second and third seasons chronicled Da Band on the road and in the studio. But Da Band received da ax at the end of the third season when P. Diddy disbanded the group.

"We watched P. Diddy work magic with his last group Da Band, who despite their issues

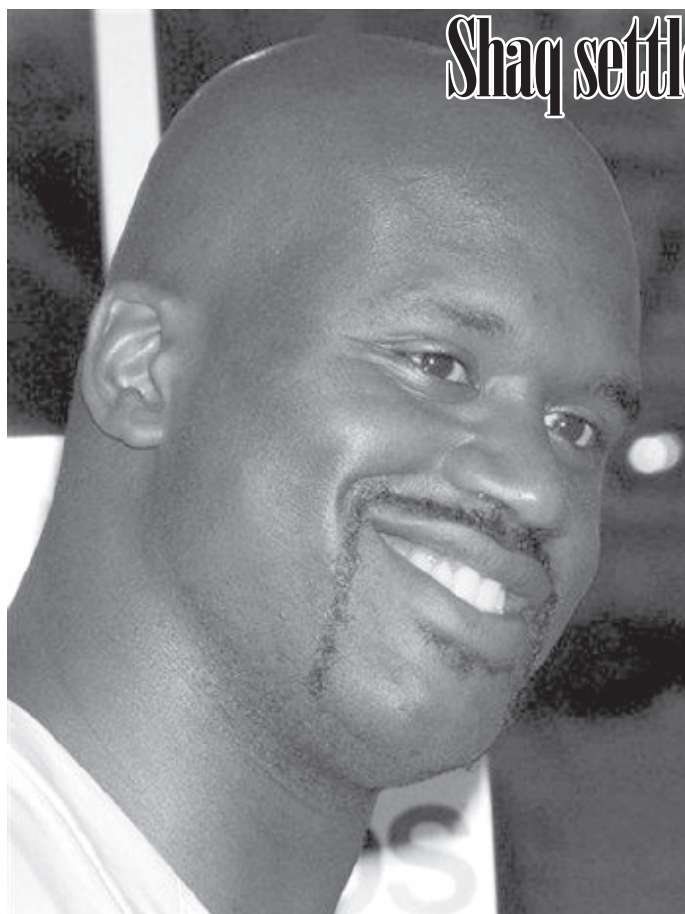
working together, still managed to take their very first album gold," said MTV Series Entertainment Executive Vice President Lois Curren. "We can't wait to see what he has in store for us as he forms a girl group in a whole new music genre."

This won't be P. Diddy's first time crafting an all-girl pop group. He was the mastermind

behind Dream, a pop quartet who sang the hit "He Loves Me Not."

Auditions for singers and musicians for the as-yet-unnamed group are scheduled for the first two weeks in October in Los Angeles, Miami and New York City.

The third installment of "Making the Band" will premiere next year.



Shaquille O'Neal is shown in this Aug. 29, 2004, file photo in Miami, Florida.

Shaq settles some scores in new rap song

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The way NBA star Shaquille O'Neal sees it, he's still the big cat, Kobe Bryant's not where it's at, and he's got the rap to back up the fact. And the Miami Heat center isn't crazy about the Detroit Pistons' Ben Wallace or rapper Skillz either.

O'Neal, when he hasn't been dominating basketball games, has dabbled in hip-hop over the years. His latest effort is a collaboration with DJ Vlad on the CD "Hot in Here Part Five."

On "You Not The Fightin' Type," O'Neal sets out to even scores with several people: Bryant, who he believes got him traded from the Los Angeles Lakers; Wallace, whose Pistons defeated the Lakers for this year's NBA championship; and Skillz, whose rap "The Champs is Here" celebrated the Detroit victory.

"I heard your little interview and what Ben Wallace said. I ain't got no response for spider-web head," O'Neal raps.

"Even with wings you never as fly as me," he continues. "You remind me of Kobe Bryant trying to be as high as me ... but you can't ... even if you get me traded ... wherever I'm at, I'm Puffy; you Mase and you're still hated."

The latter line is an apparent reference to rapper P. Diddy and his former protege Ma\$e, who left hip-hop several years ago to become a minister and criticized the music as violent and sexually degrading. Ma\$e returned to the fold this year with a new album featuring clean lyrics.

Bryant, meanwhile, says he was not responsible for O'Neal's trade to Miami.

"That upsets me. That angers me. That hurts me," he said in a story posted on ESPN.com this week. "They did what they had to do. That had nothing to do with me."

O'Neal and Bryant, who never got along that well, still managed to lead the Lakers to three straight championships from 2000-02.

Nelson, Carter team up for Georgia concert

PLAINS, Ga. (AP)—Willie Nelson visited former President Jimmy Carter, a longtime friend, to tape a television special and a free concert for residents of Carter's hometown. About 3,000 people attended Nelson's concert Thursday night in Plains.

The two were brought to-

gether again for a Country Music Television special, "CMT Homecoming: Jimmy Carter in Plains."

Carter said that in recent conversations he and Nelson "couldn't think of any issue on any subject" on which the two disagreed. "We have a long friendship," Carter said.

Nelson responded: "I've always admired him. He did a great job as president."

Carter called Nelson one of the most significant country music performers in his lifetime and said he was impressed that Nelson had maintained a relationship with "working people."

Nelson is famous for his

"Farm-Aid" concerts to help the nation's farmers.

"I'm still a farmer," Carter said, noting that he grows about 3,000 acres of corn, peanuts and wheat. "I'm in the field every chance I get."

CMT spokeswoman Jana Bowen said the special should air in December.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

Actor O.L. Duke killed in NY car crash

NEW YORK (AP)—Actor O.L. Duke, who appeared with Denzel Washington in the movies "Malcolm X," "Antwone Fisher" and "Out of Time," was killed in a car accident Friday, police and relatives said. He was 51.

Duke was returning home after performing in the off-Broadway play, "Waitin' 2 End Hell," when a car cut him off, said his wife, Monica Duke. His vehicle jumped a divider and struck an oncoming car, according to police.

Monica Duke said her husband was an avid actor who loved attending the theater. He often spoke enthusiastically about his work with other actors, including Washington, whom he counted as a friend, she said.

'Hawaii Five-O' may become a movie

HONOLULU (AP)—Warner Bros. reportedly intends to make a film based on the old "Hawaii Five-O" TV series.

A studio official confirmed that the studio

will co-produce a film based on the hit CBS series that aired from 1968 to '80 with George Litto Productions, which owns the rights to the title, the Honolulu Star-Bulletin reported.

Litto's daughter, Andria Litto, will be executive producer, and screenwriter George Nolfi ("Oceans Twelve") will write the story, the newspaper said.

The choice of who to play Steve McGarrett (Jack Lord in the series) and who to direct will not be made until the script is completed and approved.

If all that occurs this fall, then the 80-day filming in Hawaii could begin late next spring for a summer 2006 release, said Litto, an agent for the series later creator, Leonard Freeman.

'Jeopardy!' whiz mum on rumored defeat

NEW YORK (AP)—"Jeopardy!" whiz Ken Jennings is not answering rumors that his streak is up, but he's not denying them either.

After a report posted on TV Week's Web site that the brainy software engineer lost in a show taped Tuesday (that would air this fall), Jennings fielded questions in an

interview with Ellen Degeneres on her syndicated talk show.

On the show, taped on Thursday and to air Monday, Jennings says, "Well, I think it was on the Internet and as you know, if there's something on the Internet, it's gotta be true."

TV Week reported that Jennings lost after his 75th straight win, amassing a total of about \$2.5 million overall in cash and prizes.

Madonna-CBS concert deal falls through

NEW YORK (AP)—Even Madonna doesn't always get what she wants. A deal for the pop diva to show a tape of one of her concerts on CBS has fallen through.

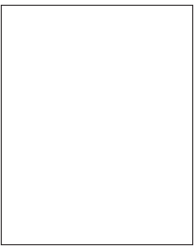
Madonna wanted the special to air for more than two hours and be commercial-free, said CBS entertainment spokesman Chris Ender. The network wasn't willing to give up more than two hours of its prime-time schedule and insisted on commercials.

CBS had expected to tape the special somewhere during Madonna's European tour. Concert specials have become increasingly popular for broadcast networks.

A call to a representative for Madonna was not immediately returned.

Pastimes

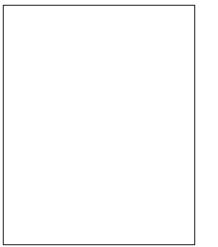




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